

1775#

**KNI-152-A**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Fujimoto et al.  
Serial Number: 09/857,382  
Filed: 23 July 2001  
Group Art Unit: 4726  
Examiner: 1775  
Confirmation Number: A. Piziali  
Title: HYDROPHILIC MEMBER



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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER MPEP §609**

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, and pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97, §1.98 and MPEP §609, applicant encloses herewith copies of the references listed on the attached for PTO/SB/08A, for consideration by the Examiner. The EP 0 816 466 A1 reference is based on the WO 96/29375 reference (international application PCT/JP96/00733).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but more than 3 months after the filing date.

**The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 for the payment of the surcharge under 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of an Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account 50-0744 in the name of Carrier, Blackman & Associates, P.C. [A]**

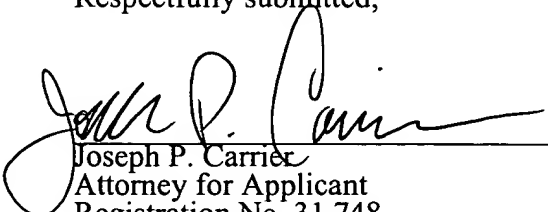
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The listed references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the present invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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09 October 2002

  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 09 October 2002.

JPC/km/eb  
enclosures

  
Kathryn MacKenzie

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